

Present: First Selectman Gayle Weinstein; Selectman David Muller; Selectman Dennis Tracey; Town Administrator Tom Landry; Administrative Assistant Judy DeVito; Department heads; residents and members of the press.

This meeting was recorded and videotaped. Copies are available in the Selectmen's office. The meetings are available for viewing online via the Town's website.

Ms. Weinstein called the meeting to order at 7:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance-

Discussion/decision regarding a proposal submitted by Fairfield County Bank to swap 47 Norfield Rd for the Jarvis property. Ms. Weinstein said that Paul McNamara from Fairfield County Bank would like to consider exploring the possibility of putting a Bank with a drive through ATM at the Jarvis property. The proposal is to swap the Jarvis property for the property at 47 Norfield Rd. with a property value differential paid in cash.

The Jarvis property would be left exactly the way it is except for an ATM teller drive-up on the site. They would improve all the buildings on the site and not create any new buildings. He reviewed several options for site proposals..

Ms. Weinstein said when she saw the sketches and the minimal impact to the property, it piqued her interest and felt we continue the process to see how the residents of Weston feel. The property is zoned residential, so in order for it to be utilized for commercial purposes, the Planning and Zoning Commission would need to approve a map amendment and potentially a text amendment. Historic District Commission approval would also be necessary. Ms. Weinstein would like to bring this to the Historic District Commission and ask for a preliminary review so we can get a sense of what they think of the plan. Selectman Muller and Selectman Tracey both agreed that this was worth pursuing.

Discussion/decision regarding approval of the construction of the extension of Hidden Spring Road in the Town owned right-of way of the Singing Oaks Subdivision and submission of an application to the Conservation Commission for the construction of that road extension. Tracey Kulikowski said Hidden Spring Drive is a road in Singing Oaks subdivision. When the sub-division was approved in 1990 the entire road was not completed because the road was generally intended to serve adjacent lots that are going to be land locked. Now that Peter Romano's client has purchased a property the road now needs to be improved to minor road standard that the Planning and Zoning Commission envisioned when they built the sub-division in 1990. The Town needs to give permission so that they can build a road. It also needs to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mr. Romano showed the Board the plans for where the road would be. The home owners will pick up the cost of constructing the road.

Mr. Muller moved to approve the construction of the extension of Hidden Spring Road at the property owner's expense in the Town owned right-of-way of the Singing Oaks Subdivision and

submission of an application to the Conservation Commission for the construction of that road extension. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding appointments to the Lachat Town Farm Commission. Diane Renaud said that she has been a resident for 20 years and has raised three children. She got involved with the Lachat project through her neighbor down the street.

Mr. Tracey moved to appoint Diane Renaud to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to expire May 15, 2017. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jamie Kapel said she has lived in Town for 15 years and has 3 children. She has been active in Town through the school and other volunteer opportunities and would like to get involved in Lachat. Both she and her son volunteered at Lachat and they asked her to be on the Committee.

Muller moved to appoint Jamie Kapel to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to expire May 15, 2017. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Glenn Van Deusen to fill the vacancy (Jeffrey Tallman) on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire November 3rd 2015. Glenn said that he is active as an alternate now on the Board. He is involved in all of the decisions and does all of the site visits whether he's voting or not.

Mr. Tracey moved to appoint Glenn Van Deusen to fill the vacancy Jeffrey Tallman on the Zoning Board of Appeals for a term to expire November 3, 2015. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously

Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation for \$351,900 for the educational program costs related to the district's special education students.

Dr. Palmer said that after discussion with the Selectmen earlier in the year and all agreed that they would wait until the end of the school year get a better understanding of the deficit. After going through the financial reports they have reduced several of the accounts so the balance has been brought down to \$320,872.

Mr. Muller moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$320,872 to cover the Board of Education Special Education Budget deficit for FY 2013/2014. The Board of Education agrees to use these funds for this sole purpose. Any remaining funds after the fiscal year close out from this line item must be returned to the Town of Weston. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation of \$84,205 for additional staffing of a kindergarten teacher. Dr. Keating said the Board voted on asking for the funding for the additional teacher and the cost was approximately 84,000. After going through all of their account and analyzing their needs to the end of the year their actual needs are about \$58,378. She presented to their finance committee this morning a number of transfers within the budget to balance out some of their needs but they will need additional funding at this time.

Ms. Weinstein asked what changed between yesterday and today that there is an additional \$15,000 deficit. Dr. Keating said the report that she was looking at previously was from April 30th and they have transactions that have taken place over the last month. There are significant separation benefits that have surfaced and they had to take that into account. Dr. Palmer said additionally they cut to close to the quick with the electric bills.

Mr. Tracey moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$58,378 to the Board of Education to cover the anticipated deficit in FY 2013/2014 Board of Education Budget. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding authorizing the First Selectman to negotiate and sign an MOU with the Board of Education, Weston Football and Weston Lacrosse regarding lights on the Stadium Field.

Steven Semaya said he would still like them to consider the requirement of having temporary lights installed for a test and have an independent engineer to actually determine what the impact is going to be rather than to rely on models and estimates which are all from the company selling the lights. They would better be able to understand the impact and also the specifics needed for screening so they could be included in the MOU in advance.

Jonathan Kasimer said that he thought events were either Friday or Saturday nights. He went through different items in the draft MOU. He said spring playoff games is a new concept to him. He would like something specific that says no lights to be used outside of what's in the MOU. He said he is concerned about the term and the potential review. Ms. Weinstein said after conversations with Board of Education and Town Attorney the lights oversight committee was amended and they amended the term.

Sandy Block asked if there was a separate sound memo that was drafted on this. Ms. Weinstein said the Board of Education did put forth a sound policy. She met with the facilities committee who is doing the review based on what is in this MOU. The Lights Committee will be a part of the decision making process and there are two residences on that committee.

Bob Machson said that his concern is that this does not cost the Town anything and he is not sure that that is clear from the MOU or the discussion. He said accepting gifts is a concern and if the lights are good for the Town then the Town ought to do them. He doesn't want taxpayer money spent on anything other than absolute necessities. Mr. Muller said that we as a country rely on philanthropy and that it is to be commended. Mr. Tracey said he thinks if we are incurring a Town expense we need to discuss it. Mr. Machson said if there is litigation that arises from this the Town is liable.

Michael Carter said that they have been through 14 public hearings, 4 boards and everyone has the same intent, how can we minimize the impact to the neighbors. They eliminated Sunday, reduced spillage to zero, BOE worked on reducing sound and they did it to be good neighbors. They feel right now that they are on the line where it doesn't make sense if they go any further. The MOU there now is acceptable to them but ultimately the people who donated \$325,000 had an expectation as to usage.

Richard Silverstein said if the intention is to screen so light doesn't hit the houses maybe it should be in the MOU. If the intent of the MOU is this is the worst case scenario that should be clear that they can modify it but not to the extent that it increases use.

Arlene Block said that we are not all in this together. It's affecting a minority but sometimes people in the majority have to do things to protect the people in the minority. The tone of some of these meetings, although people have prefaced just about everything they say with "we are trying to do everything we can not to hurt anyone in this community", has a tone of bullying. It may not be intentional but it's there. Ms. Weinstein said her message of respect is critical and much appreciated by her.

Ms. Weinstein reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding with the Board. Mr. Tracey said that the language in the MOU is good but he doesn't believe this language should be used to significantly expand the usage of the lights or the timing of the lights. Mr. Muller believes acceptance of this gift is a net positive for the Weston community. This is a compromise and no one party is getting everything they wanted.

Mr. Muller moved to authorize the First Selectman to negotiate and sign an MOU with the Board of Education, Weston Football and Weston Lacrosse regarding lights and sound usage on the Stadium Field at Weston High School. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding a gift acceptance of the Stadium Lights from the Weston Lights Committee. Mr. Tracey said he would like to thank everyone who has been a part of this process for being respectful. Ms. Weinstein said that this is another example of public private partnership that will benefit the Town.

Mr. Tracey moved to conditionally accept a gift of Stadium Lights from the Weston lights Committee. The conditions include: 1. A signed MOU consistent with the discussion at today's Board of Selectmen's meeting; 2. The Weston Lights Committee agrees to turn over all funds raised for this project to the Town of Weston in an amount that is sufficient to cover the cost of the lights project in its entirety including a reasonable contingency; 3. The Town of Weston will negotiate and execute all contracts for this project; and 4. According to Town Gift Policy, this gift must also be accepted by the Board of Finance. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation for new asphalt for the play area at East house. Ms. Weinstein said that we had made an agreement with the Board of Education that if we could recreate an asphalt play area and resurface a parking lot so the teachers would be able to park behind East house. After discussions they have identified the area that is to the right of East house where the kids line up. That needs to be renovated so they are proposing to rip up all the asphalt, re-mill and repave the whole area so that we have a level play area that the kids can play on while improving the drainage to the area.

Mr. Muller moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of \$39,583 for new asphalt and resurface for parking for the play area at East House. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation of \$18,000 to hire KG&D to provide architectural and engineering services for the Weston Senior Center remodel. Ms. Weinstein said that the \$18,000 is a number that they feel pretty confident will come down. Mr. Landry has been working with Erik Keyer from KG&D to let him know what our needs are. They are meeting with them to take a look at the handicap bathrooms to see if they can reduce some of the cost.

Mr. Tracey moved to approve a supplemental appropriation of up to \$18,000 to hire KG&D to provide architectural and engineering services for the Weston Senior Center remodel. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/decision regarding a supplemental appropriation for \$15,000 for Police Station soils test. Ms. Weinstein said that the Town Engineer has informed us that we have major storm water drainage for the entire Town hall complex underneath the proposed site for the new Police Station. We need to hire an engineer to look into the possibility of moving the proposed police station to another area or moving the drainage to another area. They will work with Brian Humes who will hire this engineer to do test pits and other associated work necessary. There is an addition \$3,000 in this cost for a survey.

Mr. Muller moved to approve a supplemental appropriation for \$15,000 for the Police Station soils test. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Open Item

First Selectman's update- COG she forward the minutes from the last meeting. Wilton, Stamford, Greenwich and New Canaan have all passed their ordinances. Norwalk is on its way to the common council and Darien is expected the end of June. The HEVCO region has not done that yet.

Lachat is coming along and even before they official started talking about renting the plots they have over ½ of them already taken.

Any other business to come properly before the meeting

Mr. Tracey moved to add a discussion/decision regarding the appointment of Jeff Wollman to Lachat Town Farm Committee. Mr. Muller seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wollman said that he has been watching the development of the Farmhouse and had an opportunity to volunteer some time and build some beds. He has a business background and can add something to the Commission.

Mr. Tracey move to appoint Jeff Wollman to the Lachat Town Farm Commission. Mr. Muller second and the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of the Minutes of the May 1st and May 15th Board of Selectmen's meeting. Tabled to the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
June 5, 2014

At 10:40pm Mr. Muller moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Tracey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Judy M. DeVito
Administrative Assistant
Approved 8/7/14